

As a current satellite subscriber, and one of the millions of avid haters of the local cable monopoly, I wish to strongly voice my support of the proposed EchoStar-DirectTV merger. This merger is needed to give satellite TV and broadband services the strength they need to compete with the large cable companies that have long been provided the advantages and evils of monopoly status.

Satellite TV subscriptions provide numerous channels of great content, a clear digital signal, and friendly and prompt customer service, all at a price competitive if not better than the monopoly cable giants. Allowing the merger would further provide a level playing field for the new satellite TV provider, allowing them to better their service offerings and advance their technology. At the same time, it would provide benefit to current cable subscribers as the monopoly status of the giant cable companies is broken, forcing these companies to revamp their decades old technology, withering infrastructure, and infamously abominable customer service.

The way to fix a radically broken system is with an equally radical change. Even though the proposed merger may reduce the number of companies in the satellite services market, it actually increases the number of viable players in the broadband TV market, as well as breaks the current monopolistic hold that the giant cable companies currently have on individual towns and communities.

I urge you to support this proposed merger, if not for the benefit of all, at least for the benefit of most.